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CIA



John McCone is boss of the controversial CIA.



Secretary Robert McNamara created rival DIA.

# The battle for secret power

*Since World War II the Central Intelligence Agency has been our main covert defense—sometimes offense—against Communism. Now a Defense Department agency is challenging its supremacy.*

At about 9:30 on most working mornings Maj. Gen. Chester Clifton, the President's military aide, comes into the President's office clutching a handful of documents. The papers in Clifton's hands are likely to include a couple of "eyes only" cables from American ambassadors, the ultrasecret "Black Book" of the code-breaking National Security Agency and intelligence summaries from the State and Defense departments. But the document which Clifton almost always shows the President first is a little book which has been put together in the early hours of the morning by the Central Intelligence Agency.

This neatly typed and bound book has on its cover the words: INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST. FOR THE PRESIDENT. TOP SECRET. The book is

the essential end product of a major postwar industry about which even knowledgeable people know remarkably little. This is the intelligence industry, which spends upward of \$2.5 billion a year and employs over 60,000 people.

Intelligence has traditionally been a peculiarly feud-ridden business, and for a simple reason. Intelligence is knowledge, knowledge is power, and power is the most valuable commodity in government. The Central Intelligence Agency has been at the very center of all the great crises of the last decade—and the CIA has actually caused several of these crises. Where the stakes, in terms of power and rivalry are inevitable, which is one of the principal reasons why it is rather widely believed